THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The following steps have been taken in this regard:—

(i) It has been decided that during the financial year 1994-95 the cases of resident individuals declaring total income of Rs. 1,20 lakhs or less will not be selected for detailed scrutiny provided the total income does not include income from business or profession, there is no brought forward or carry forward loss other than from house property and there is no positive information of tax evasion;

(ii) in respect of other cases of total income less than Rs. 2 lakhs, only 3 per cent of the returns will be selected for scrutiny purely on random basis;

(iii) to help the middle class assessees a new simplified Form No. 2A has been introduced which can be used by resident individual assessees whose total income is Rs. 1.20 lakhs or less and such total income does not include income from business or profession or any ybrought forward or carry forward loss except from House Property;

(iv) the Presumptive Tax Scheme for small traders and persons engaged in vocations, which was originally introduced only for two Financial Years 1992-93 and 1993-94 has since been continued;

(c) a Central Direct Taxes Advisory Committee at the Central level and also regional Direct Taxes Advisory Committees at the State/Regional level are already functioning.

Excise subsidy for fuel/oil

967. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Excise subsidy will be extended for purchase of fuel/oil by the deep sea fishing industry in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether Government are aware that the deep sea fishing industry is export oriented; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to assist this export oriented industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c). Under the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 there is no concept of excise subsidy. However, the Ministry of Commerce is administering a scheme aimed at reimbursing a part of the cost of high speed diesel oil consumed by deep sea fishing vessels so as to make the effective price comparable to the international price.

Pre-emptive Purchase of property by Income tax Department

968. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enhance the present limit for pre-emptive purchase of property by Income Tax Department;

(b) whether it is a fact that the present limit was set many years ago; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to raise the limit inview of inflation and all around price increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Several representations have been received by the Government with a plea for raising of the existing limit of Rs. 10 lakhs of apparent consideration for the applicability of the provisions of the pre-emptive purchase of immovable properties. These are under consideration of the Government.

(b) The present limit of Rs. 10 lakhs of apparent consideration was fixed on 1-10-1986.

(c) All relevant factors shall be taken into account before taking any deision of increasing the existing limit.